

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 were pending in this application. Claims 12-19 have been cancelled and claims 1 and 6-8 have been amended hereby. Support for the amendment to the independent claims can be found in, for example, paragraphs, 0032, 0039, 0050, and 0074. No new matter has been entered. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-11 will be pending herein, with claims 1 and 6 being independent. For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to; claims 6-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kolawa; claims 1 and 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Viega; and claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner and Viega, and further in view of Kolawa. To the extent these grounds of rejection might be applied to claims presently pending in this application, they are respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended paragraph 0017 of the specification to address the concerns raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, the objection to the disclosure should be withdrawn.

Applicants have further amended the independent claims to even more clearly recite features of the instant invention. Referring to amended claim 1, for example, the claimed invention is directed to a method for certifying software applications by creating a vulnerability knowledge database comprising one or more classes of known software vulnerabilities; applying

a code parser to the software application to create an abstract syntax tree; comparing the abstract syntax tree and the classes of known software vulnerabilities to identify a set of potential exploitable software vulnerabilities; performing a static analysis of the source code, wherein the static analysis is flow sensitive analysis of a list of constraints, and wherein the results of the static analysis comprise a set of exploitable software vulnerabilities; performing a first dynamic analysis of the software, wherein the first dynamic analysis comprises a set of tests to achieve code coverage; performing a second dynamic analysis of the software, wherein the second dynamic analysis comprises injecting faults into the software while being executed; and performing any two of said analysis steps in a pipelined manner.

Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art of record fails to disclose each of the elements recited in the independent claims, let alone in the combination expressly claimed. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 and §103 rejections of the claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Art Unit: 2682

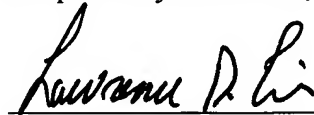
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Attachments: None

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